UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/CN.11/1991/L.4
30 April 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT
Eleventh session
22 April-3 May 1991
Agenda items 3, 4, 5 and 6

SUBSTANTIVE THEME: WAYS AND MEANS OF ENSURING THE PARTICIPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR RESEARCH ON AND DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND TECHNOLOGIES, AND THE RAPID AND EFFECTIVE TRANSFER OF SUCH TECHNOLOGIES TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

FINANCING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN PROMOTING ENDOGENOUS CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Ghana*: draft resolution

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

91-14035 3352Z (E)

/...

Science and technology for development in the 1990s

A

Environmentally sound technology

The Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 44/14 A to E of 26 October 1989, 44/228 of 22 December 1989 and S-18/3 of 1 May 1990,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means of ensuring the participation of developing countries in international cooperation for research on and development of environmentally sound technologies, and the rapid and effective transfer of such technologies to the developing countries; 1/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to make that report available to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development before the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference for consideration, together with the views expressed by delegations on the subject during the eleventh session of the Intergovernmental Committee;

3. Requests the Centre for Science and Technology for Development to prepare, in cooperation with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development and other relevant United Nations bodies, a comprehensive study on the utilization of energy technologies, based on the specific experiences of selected countries and focusing on policy issues and options for an effective transfer and application of environmentally sound technologies, and to report to the Intergovernmental Committee thereon at its twelfth session;

4. Considers that the establishment of a network of national and international research centres on environmentally sound technologies, based primarily on existing regional research, development and demonstration centres, should be examined by the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development as a modality for developing environmentally sound technology, linking the regional centres to national institutions and enterprises;

5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make available to the Secretary-General of the Conference the expertise of the Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development in order to contribute to the preparatory work of the Conference on the transfer of environmentally sound technology to developing countries;

1/ A/CN.11/1991/2.

6. Requests the Chairman of the Committee to transmit the present resolution to the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference as the substantive contribution of the Intergovernmental Committee to the work of the Preparatory Committee.

B

Activities of the United Nations system on science and technology for development

The Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 34/218 of 19 December 1979 and 44/14 A to E of 26 October 1989,

Recalling also its resolution 45/196 of 21 December 1990 on industrial development cooperation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Intergovernmental Committee at its twelfth session, in 1993, emphasizing the following:

(a) The interrelationship between new and emerging technologies and the industrialization of developing countries, as well as its contribution to the strengthening of the regional integration process; the report should contain concrete proposals on ways and means of ensuring the transfer of new and emerging technologies, which will be the substantive theme for the twelfth session of the Intergovernmental Committee;

(b) Improving the quality of global coordination and cooperation in the area of technology for development, as well as system-wide coordination within the United Nations system;

2. Requests the Executive-Director of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development to assist developing countries in their efforts to promote the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, in both the public and private sectors, devoted to consulting services on environmental impact assessment, as well as to research on and development of environmentally sound technologies;

3. Urges the international community and the United Nations system, particularly the Centre for Science and Technology for Development, to take steps towards the full implementation of the Paris Declaration, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 2/ and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s 2/ in the field of science and technology;

2/ A/CONF.147/Misc.9.

4. Notes the efforts of the Secretary-General of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to hold consultations on a code of conduct for the transfer of technology, and encourages Member States to participate actively in the achievement of an early agreement on the matter.

C

Endogenous capacity-building

The Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development

1. Urges the Centre for Science and Technology for Development to take all possible measures to support the efforts of developing countries to build and strengthen their endogenous capacities in science and technology, inter alia, through contributions from the private sector;

2. Requests the Centre to support and participate in programmes of research and development of technology in the least developed countries with the aim of developing endogenous capacities and strengthening national scientific and technological infrastructures, and to assist in the formulation of appropriate policies to facilitate the transfer of technology;

3. Requests the Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development to continue its work to develop operational criteria to facilitate the design and assessment of programmes and activities to strengthen the endogenous scientific and technological capabilities of developing countries;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to submit to the Intergovernmental Committee, at its twelfth session, an analytical report on how the United Nations system can more actively enhance the impact of its activities related to the process of creating and strengthening endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries;

5. Requests the Centre for Science and Technology for Development, in cooperation with the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and appropriate organizations in developing countries, through its advanced technology assessment network and making full use of its endogenous capacity-building pilot studies, to organize workshops and other relevant activities in developing countries to explore both the methodologies for and the organization of technology monitoring, assessment and forecasting most appropriate to the needs and resources of the countries concerned;

D

Financing science and technology for development

The Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development

1. Recommends that:

(a) Developed countries channel substantial financial resources to support the full implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, in particular the process of endogenous capacity-building in science and technology;

(b) At the global level, a more diversified, innovative and flexible approach be adopted to finance endogenous capacity-building in science and technology and that a broad coalition of resources drawn from domestic, bilateral and multilateral sources, be assembled;

(c) The United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development continue to remain an identifiable entity within the United Nations Development Programme under the policy guidance of the Committee and in accordance with the priorities agreed upon by it, and that donor countries support the Fund more generously with a view to strengthening endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries;

2. Takes note of the concept and mode of operation outlined in the report of the Secretary-General as regards organizing a more effective coalition of resources, 3/ and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Intergovernmental Committee, at its twelfth session, a comprehensive and feasible plan, prepared in close cooperation with the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development in consultation with the donor community, including the regional development banks and organizations of the United Nations system, especially the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

3/ See A/CN.11/1991/3.